



## RTCA in Delaware

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in Delaware offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the National Park Service will work with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.

In 2016, the National Park Service in Delaware will work on a variety of projects including:

- **Delaware River Urban Waters Federal Partnership** – The project goal is to connect urban communities to their waterways by improving coordination among Federal agencies and collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts to improve waterways and promote their economic, environmental, and social benefits. (Location: Wilmington, Delaware)
- **Lower Delaware River Canoemobile** – The project goal is to bring together conservation and outdoor recreation organizations, government agencies, school districts, and other partners to implement an urban water-based environmental education experience for thousands of youth and residents along the Lower Delaware River and its tributaries. (Location: Wilmington, Delaware)
- **Wilmington Thriving** – The project goal is to coordinate local residents, community stakeholders, and environmental organizations to improve community access to local parks, green spaces, waterways, and outdoor opportunities for Wilmington youth and residents. (Location: Wilmington, Delaware)

For more information about the RTCA program refer to: [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca), or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in Delaware contact:

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Youth explore historic ships when the Canoemobile visits the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation in Wilmington, DE.